

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CONFIDENTIAL

TO : NEA - Mr. Hart

DATE: January 7, 1960

FROM : NE - Armin H. Meyer

SUBJECT: Commendation of U.S. Army Dentists in Yemen

Discussion:

In December 1959 at the request of the Imam made through diplomatic channels, the U.S. Army in Europe made available the services of two dental surgeons. During a three week stay in Yemen, these officers successfully treated the Imam and a number of members of his entourage, creating thereby considerable admiration for U.S. dental skills and gratitude for the generosity of the United States Government. We consider it appropriate that an expression of appreciation for their services be sent to Mr. Irwin of the DOD for incorporation in the personnel records of the officers concerned.

Recommendation:

That you sign the attached letter to Mr. Irwin.

Attachment:

Letter to Mr. Irwin

NEA:NE:WRCrawford:am  
1/7/60

RM/R
Ana <i>47</i>
Rev
Cat

CONFIDENTIAL

FEB 4 - 1960

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7868.11/1-760

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Authority WND 949527  
By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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CONFIDENTIAL

January 8, 1960

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Dear Mr. Irwin:

This letter is to record our appreciation for the performance of Lt. Colonel Louis Emory and Lt. Colonel Roderick Lister, Dental Surgeons on the staff of the U.S. Army in Europe stationed at Heidelberg, and to express our gratitude to you and to their commanding officer, Major General A. L. Gerby, Chief Surgeon, U.S. Army Europe, for having made their services available for a special mission at the request of this Department.

In the interest of the United States Government, Colonels Emory and Lister spent three weeks in Yemen. Their mission was one of considerable delicacy, involving treatment of His Majesty, the Imam of Yemen. We understand that this treatment, carried out under the most difficult physical circumstances, was entirely satisfactory and was greatly appreciated by His Majesty. Further, during their protracted stay in Yemen, Colonels Emory and Lister generously extended treatment to other members of the Royal Court. Their actions have unquestionably brought credit on American medical practices and on the United States Government.

I would hope that a notation as to the Department of State's appreciation for their valuable services will be incorporated in the records of these two officers. We are deeply indebted to them and to all your other associates in the Department of Defense who made this successful mission possible.

Sincerely yours,

Parker T. Hart  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs

The Honorable  
John W. Irwin, II,  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for International Security Affairs,  
Department of Defense.

EC/R  
47  
Rev  
Cat

NEA:NE:WRCrawford:am  
1/7/60

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8:00  
8 1960 P.M.

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

# OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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1960 JAN 7 PM 11 46  
02207  
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Origin:

SENT TO: AmLegation, TAIZ 124

Info:

RPTD INFO: AmConsul, ASMARA 219  
AmEmbassy, CAIRO - VIA POUCH *Jan*

As previously agreed with GOY Col. Brady, U.S. Army dentist stationed in Asmara, will return Yemen approximately January 18-20 for post operative examination Imam.

Legation should specify whether it wishes Brady proceed Hodeida or Taiz, arrange issuance entry visa at appropriate airport notifying Asmara when it has done so, and arrange accompany Brady during visit.

*Dillon* DILLON  
ACTING  
*atm*

786H.11/1-760

RM/R
Anal <i>4</i>
Rev
Cat

Drafted by: *WRC*

NEA:NE:WRCrawford:am:s 1-7-60

Clearances:

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

NE - Armin H. Meyer

S/S CR  
#4  
JAN 7 1960 P.M.

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786H.11/1-760

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Authority WND 949527  
By *RLH* NARA Date 11-07-04

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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34  
Action  
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Info  
SS  
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INR

Control: 5041  
Rec'd: January 11, 1960  
5:02 a.m.

FROM: Taiz  
TO: Secretary of State  
NO: 192, January 9

RMR SENT DEPARTMENT 192, ASMARA 17, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 145

Reference: DEPTTEL 124 repeated Asmara 219, Cairo unnumbered

Colonel Brady should proceed Taiz where arrangements will be made for onward travel Sukhne. Entry visa granted. Have requested permission accompany Brady and will inform Department when granted.

DGH/1

~~DEVLIN~~  
*Stoltz*

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JAN 25 1960

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By *RH* NARA Date *11-07-04*

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Classification

FROM: TAIZ

Date Sent: January 11, 1960

Rec'd:

TO: Secretary of State

NO: G-87

RPTD INFO: Amembassy CAIRO 86  
Amconsulate ADEN 75B 0 1 4 5 7  
PAGE 1 OF 2This Document must be Retained  
to the RMR Central FilesJAN 25 13 PM '60  
NEA  
1/26  
JAN 25 AM 9 00

786H.11/1-1160.

CA

From information obtained number of sources Taiz it appears another abortive attempt on life Imam occurred Sukhne about Jan 4.

There are as usual many versions plot story but all center around Sa'id Hassan (al-Iklisi), truck owner and co-owner with two brothers of new bookstore in Taiz. Hassan said to have enlisted cooperation of Mohamed Yahya Munassir, son of chief of Imam's bodyguard Yahya Munassir of Zaraniq tribe in Tihama. Plan was that Hassan would drive to Sukhne in jeep carrying with him bombs and money in gold. Mohamed was to meet him in Sukhne and assist in gaining access to palace where bombs would be planted or Imam killed on spot. One story has it that relatives of Jabri brothers (Khawlan tribe) killed by Army in riots last June in Taiz also involved in plot.

Mohamed Yahya said to have agreed to Hassan's plan and, thinking his father retained long-standing resentment Zaraniq tribe against past injustices of Imam, informed Yahya Munassir. Latter feigned approval but prepared himself and, when jeep arrived Sukhne, seized Hassan and took him to Imam. According sources Hassan courageous before Imam, claiming conspirators were "five million Yemenis". Accounts vary as to whether or not Hassan has been executed; however, bookshop in Taiz has been closed.

According another version of event Shaikh al-Fashiq of Hussainiyya, one of lesser Zaraniq chiefs, offered heavy bribe by Hassan if he would assist in assassination attempt. Al-Fashiq pretended to accept, and then informed Imam's bodyguards who seized Hassan on his arrival in Sukhne.

Yemeni sources agree plotters' reliance on Zaraniq chiefs was logical since Zaraniq tribe known to have nursed grudges against Imam dating back many years. Unfortunately for plotters, however, Imam, especially since recent troubles with Hashid tribes in north (Legtel 180), has successfully won loyalty of Zaraniq of Tihama who now constitute his main tribal support.

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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Amlegation TAIZ

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Plot incident reveals that while Imam continues triumphant over opponents, firmness his position should not be taken for granted. His enemies are still hard at work, and an always possible "accident" to Imam would alter political outlook for Yemen overnight.

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

## INCOMING TELEGRAM

## Department of State

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34-39

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Control: 9438

Rec'd: January 16, 1960  
7:24 a.m.

NEA

FROM: Taiz

Info

SS

TO: Secretary of State

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INR

NO: 197, January 13, 7 p.m.

RMR

PRIORITY

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION

DEPTEL 124, LEGTEL 196

Legation notes reference telegram mentions only Colonel Brady returning for post operative examination Imam. If US Army contemplates sending additional dentists as before, request Department take note Legation's G-76. Brady reiterated same point prior his departure from Taiz December 23.

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By RHE NARA Date 11/07/04

## INCOMING TELEGRAM

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34-39

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Control: 9455  
Rec'd: JANUARY 16, 1960  
8:15 A.M.

FROM: TAIZ

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 196, JANUARY 13, 7 P.M.

PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 196, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 147, ASMARA 18.

DEPTEL 124, LEGTEL 192

ACTING HEAD FOREIGN OFFICE ABU TALIB INFORMED LEGATION JANUARY 13  
IMAM WELCOMES CHARGE TO SUKHNE WITH DENTISTS; IMAM ALSO SAID  
GLAD DENTISTS COMING SOON BECAUSE HE SUFFERING SOME PAIN MAKING  
DENTURES UNCOMFORTABLE.

STOLTZFUS

JR

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JAN 28 1960

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04



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Origin

SENT TO: AmLegation, TAIZ

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786h.11/1360

Only Brady returning for post operative examination.

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(H11)

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RM/R
Anal <u>9</u>
Rev _____
Cat _____

Drafted by:

NEA: NE: WRCrawford: am: s 1-18-60

Telegraphic transmission and  
classification approved by:

NE - ~~James H. Nichols~~ Nicholas

Thacher

Classified by:

cat S/S CR

JAN 18 1960 P.M.

JAN 18 1960 P.M.

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*Department of State*

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30-31

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RMR

FROM: Taiz

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 200, January 20, 3 p.m.

Control: 13345  
Rec'd: January 22, 1960  
7:00 a.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 200, REPEATED INFORMATION CATRO UNNUMBERED,  
ASMARA 19

Doctor Brady and Charge departing Taiz for Sukhne by air January 20.

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Note: Delayed in transmission.

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By *RLH* NARA Date *11/07/04*

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Control:

CORRECTION ISSUED:  
1/31/60 11:55 AM HEK

Rec'd:

16677  
JANUARY 27, 1960  
10:16 A.M.

NEA

Info

FROM: TAIZ -- CORRECTED COPY

SS

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 203, JANUARY 24, 5 P.M.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 203, REPEATED INFORMATION CIARO 153, ADEN 170

LEGTEL 202

AT AUDIENCE JANUARY 22 IN SUKHNE CHARGE DISCUSSED FOLLOWING  
SUBJECTS WITH IMAM AND PRINCE ABDUL RAHMAN:

(1) CHARGE REITERATED USG ASSURANCE THAT PAST OR CONTEMPLATED  
CHANGES IN US REPRESENTATION IN YEMEN DID NOT IN ANY WAY AFFECT  
US DESIRE MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH GOY AND YEMENI PEOPLE  
AND RENDER HELPFUL ASSISTANCE IN YEMEN. IMAM REPLIED HE UNDER-  
STOOD POINT PERFECTLY AND CONTINUED BELIEVE US GENUINELY WISHED  
HELP YEMEN.

(2) CHARGE SAID HE INFORMED BY DEPARTMENT THAT LEGATION WOULD  
SOON RECEIVE PROPOSAL FOR ROAD PROJECT FOR DISCUSSION WITH GOY.  
IMAM SAID HE WELCOMED NEWS AND DESIRED EARLIEST POSSIBLE  
NEGOTIATIONS ON PROPOSAL.

(3) IMAM CONFIRMED GOY REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL PL 480 WHEAT;  
SAID HE HAD ORDERED ACTING HEAD FOREIGN OFFICE ABU TALIB PASS  
TO LEGATION SOON AS POSSIBLE AVAILABLE DETAILS RE FAMINE CONDITIONS  
AND EXTENT OF YEMENI WHEAT NEEDS WHICH HE ESTIMATED WERE WELL IN  
EXCESS OF 15,000 TONS.

(4) CHARGE VENTURED OPINION THAT ONE OF IMPORTANT PREREQUISITES  
IS SCIENTIFIC STUDY WHOLE PROBLEM OF COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
WAS AVAILABILITY OF ACCURATE AND DETAILED MAPS. SUCH MAPS OF GREAT  
VALUE TO US ROAD ENGINEERS AS WELL AS TO COMPANIES AND OTHERS  
SELECTED BY GOY TO EXPLOIT HISTORY, WATER AND OTHER RESOURCES AND  
FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. BEST METHOD OBTAINING MAPS WAS BY

Correction made

by RM/R

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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-2- 203, JANUARY 24, 5 PM FROM TAIZ -- CORRECTED COPY

AERIAL SURVEY. CHARGE SAID THAT SINCE MAPS EXTREMELY DETAILED AND REVEALED GREAT DEAL OF INFORMATION, AERIAL SURVEYS NOT CONDUCTED EXCEPT BETWEEN FRIENDS; MAPS NOT AVAILABLE THIRD PARTIES EXCEPT BY CONSENT GOY. CHARGES SAID USG MIGHT BE WILLING CARRY OUT AERIAL SURVEY IF IMAM SO WISHED.

IMAM REPLIED HE HAD SEEN MAP GIVEN KING SAUD AND UNDERSTOOD SAUDI ARABIA BENEFITING FROM SUCH SURVEY; SAID HE APPRECIATED SUGGESTION AND REQUESTED CHARGE INFORM USG HE WOULD ACCEPT AERIAL SURVEY IF OFFERED.

(5) CHARGE SAID THAT WHILE ROAD PROJECT WAS MAJOR OFFER, USG WOULD WELCOME IMAM'S VIEWS ON TYPE OF ASSISTANCE US MIGHT RENDER IN OTHER FIELDS. IMAM REPLIED HIS NUMBER ONE WISH WAS FOR CONSTRUCTION WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM TAIZ CAPABLE OF ACCOMMODATION PRESSING AND GROWING WATER NEEDS THAT TOWN. HE ALSO BELIEVED IRRIGATION PROJECT AND DAMS SHOULD RECEIVE HIGH PRIORITY. "I AM NOT SPEAKING OF HIGH DAMS MADE OF CEMENT AND COSTING GREAT DEAL OF MONEY", HE SAID, "WE NEED SERIES SMALL DAMS OF FITTED STONE OR CLAY, SUCH AS CHINA HAS, TO CONSERVE WATER FOR AGRICULTURE, OUR FLOOD WATERS ARE GOING TO WASTE WITHOUT THESE DAMS".

IMAM ALSO SAID HE HAS ALREADY RECEIVED "OTHER OFFERS" FOR PLANTS AND FACTORIES BUT WOULD FAVORABLY CONSIDER ANY NEW PROPOSALS IF WERE ADVANTAGEOUS TO YEMEN.

AT END OF AUDIENCE IMAM REMARKED: "THIS IS TWENTIETH CENTURY. IT IS FAST AGE-- THE JET AGE. WE CAN NOT AFFORD TO RELAX OR FAIL TO MOVE AHEAD. WE VERY MUCH HOPE USG WILL HELP US IN WHAT WE KNOW WE MUST DO TO EFFECT PROGRESS IN OUR COUNTRY".

COMMENT: IMAM WAS CORDIAL THROUGHOUT HALF-HOUR AUDIENCE AND DID NOT COMPLAIN OF "US INACTION" AS DO OTHER GOY OFFICIALS. NEVERTHELESS LEGATION CONSIDERS HIS CLOSING REMARKS CONCERNING NEED FOR EARLY SIGNS PROGRESS IN YEMEN REFLECT CURRENT INTERNAL PRESSURES ON IMAM TO DEMONSTRATE IN PRACTICAL TERMS HIS INTENTION ENCOURAGE PROGRESS AND TO JUSTIFY PREFERENCE FOR WESTERN RATHER THAN EASTERN AID.

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By RL NARA Date 11-17-04

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-3- 203, JANUARY 24, 5 P.M. FROM TAIZ -- CORRECTED COPY

LEGATION AND ICA ALSO BELIEVE AUDIENCE BEARS OUT THEIR CONTENTIONS THAT (A) PRESENT ATTITUDE OF IMAM AND TOP GOY OFFICIALS IS FAVORABLE TO WEST AND US IN PARTICULAR, (B) THIS WESTERN ASSET IS HOWEVER FRAGILE IN VIEW POOR GOY FINANCIAL POSITION, MOUNTING IMPATIENCE OF IMAM'S SUBJECTS FOR BETTER ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES AND INSIDIOUS VOICE OF COMMUNISTS OFFER ATTEMPTING "SOLUTIONS" TO COUNTRY'S ILLS, (C) WEST NEED NOT MATCH COMMUNISTS DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR AND (D) WESTERN "AID PRESENT" IN NUMBER OF FIELDS AND AREAS ( INCLUDING AREAS OF CURRENT COMMUNIST PRESENCE) IS VITAL REQUIREMENT; IMAM'S VIEWS RE DESIRABLE US AND WESTERN AID MAKES THIS WESTERN PRESENCE FEASIBLE. CONTINUE BELIEVE WHEN LEGATION-ICA ARMED WITH DECISION ON AID LEVEL USG CAN EXPECT REALISTIC APPROACH ON PART IMAM IN SELECTION AND NEGOTIATION OF PROJECTS.

LEGATION SUGGESTS DEPARTMENT PROMPTLY PRESENT AERIAL SURVEY PROPOSAL. INTERESTING REMARK BY PRINCE ABDUL RAHMAN AFTER AUDIENCE WAS THAT IMAM PARTICULARLY LIKED POINT THAT AERIAL SURVEYS ONLY CARRIED OUT BETWEEN FRIENDS.

IMAM ALSO INDICATED INTENSE INTEREST IN MALARIA CONTROL. HE WISHED SEE BOTH USIS MALARIA FILMS CHARGE TOOK TO SUKHNE AND WAS SEEN COMMENTING FREQUENTLY TO HIS ADVISERS DURING SHOWING.

STOLFSFUS

JR

NOTE: DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION

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Control:

16677

Rec'd:

January 27, 1960

10:16 a.m.

FROM: Taiz

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 203, January 24, 5 p.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 203; REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 153, ADEN 170

LEGTEL 202

At audience January 22 in Sukhne Charge discussed following subjects with Imam and Prince Abdul Rahman:

(1) Charge reiterated USG assurance that past or contemplated changes in US representation in Yemen did not in any way affect US desire maintain friendly relations with GOY and Yemeni people and render helpful assistance in Yemen. Imam replied he understood point perfectly and continued believe US genuinely wished help Yemen.

(2) Charge said he informed by Department that Legation would soon receive proposal for road project for discussion with GOY. Imam said he welcomed news and desired earliest possible negotiations on proposal.

(3) Imam confirmed GOY request for additional PL 480 wheat; said he had ordered acting head Foreign Office Abu Talib pass to Legation soon as possible available details re famine conditions and extent of Yemeni wheat needs which he estimated were well in excess of 15,000 tons.

(4) Charge ventured opinion that one of important prerequisites is scientific study whole problem of country's economic development was availability of accurate and detailed maps. Such maps of great value to US road engineers as well as to companies and others selected by GOY to exploit history, water and other resources and for development projects. Best method obtaining maps was by aerial survey. Charge said that (#) speaking of high dams made

of cement

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By R/H NARA Date 11-07-04

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-2- 203, January 24, 5 p.m., from Taiz

of cement and costing great deal of money", he said, "we need series small dams of fitted stone or clay, such as China has, to conserve water for agriculture, our flood waters are going to waste without these dams".

Imam also said he has already received "other offers" for plants and factories but would favorably consider any new proposals if were advantageous to Yemen.

At end of audience Imam remarked: "this is Twentieth Century. It is fast age--the jet age. We can not afford to relax or fail to move ahead. We very much hope USG will help us in what we know we must do to effect progress in our country".

Comment: Imam was cordial throughout half-hour audience and did not complain of "US inaction" as do other GOY officials. Nevertheless Legation considers his closing remarks concerning need for early signs progress in Yemen reflect current internal pressures on Imam to demonstrate in practical terms his intention encourage progress and to justify preference for western rather than eastern aid.

Legation and ICA also believe audience bears out their contentions that (A) present attitude of Imam and top GOY officials is favorable to west and US in particular, (B) this western asset is however fragile in view poor GOY financial position, mounting impatience of Imam's subjects for better economic opportunities and insidious voice of Communists offer attempting "solutions" to country's ills, (C) west need <sup>not</sup> match Communists dollar for dollar and (D) western "aid presence" in number of fields and areas (including areas of current compresence\*) is vital requirement; Imam's views re desirable US and western aid makes this western presence feasible. Continue believe when Legation-ICA armed with decision on aid level USG can expect realistic approach on part Imam in selection and negotiation of projects.

Legation suggests Department promptly present aerial survey proposal. Interesting remark by Prince Abdul Rahman after audience was that Imam particularly liked point that aerial surveys only carried out between friends.

Imam also

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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-3- 203, January 24, 5 p.m., from Taiz

Imam also indicated intense interest in malaria control. He wished see both USIS malaria films Charge took to Sukhne and was seen commenting frequently to his advisers during showing.

STOLESFUS

AAL:EWB:11

Note: Delayed in transmission

(#) Omission, correction to follow.  
\* As received, correction to follow.

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## INCOMING TELEGRAM

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RMR

FROM: Taiz

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 202, January 24, 10 a.m.

Control: 14862

Rec'd: January 25, 1960  
9:41 a.m.

SENT DEPARTMENT 202, REPEATED INFORMATION CAIRO 652, ADEN 168

Army dentist Colonel Brady accompanied by Director of Public Security Sayyid Ahmad Abbas, Legations accountant (and qualified nurse) Ihsanullah and Charge visited Sukhne January 20 to 23. Party was called first evening to palace where Brady examined Imam to discover recent operation 50 percent successful: magnet on right side firmly in place and gum healing well but left magnet loose and causing slight infection. Brady removed left magnet and informed Imam second minor operation needed in near future to reset magnet. Report cabled to Frankfurt with request Colonel Lister return Sukhne to complete work. During next two days Brady treated infection which clearing rapidly.

Charge granted audience with Imam and brother Prince Abdul Rahman (LEGTEL 203), talked with Yemeni officials and on two evenings showed USIS and feature films to Imam, officials and members royal household.

Also in Sukhne to see Imam were Qadi Muhammad Al-Amri and Qadi Muhammad Al-Shami, recently returned from Cairo, and acting head of Foreign Office Abu Talib. Charge overheard part of one conversation between Imam, Al-Amri and Al-Shami gist of which was troubles in north may not yet be over (see Legation airgram G-91). After long session with Imam January 20, Abu Talib indicated he is likely remain in Foreign Office Taiz.

Party departed Sukhne January 23 on understanding Brady proceeding Asmara and returning with Lister within few days. Imam has requested Charge return also. Intend comply unless Department directs otherwise.

Comment: Imam appears in remarkably good health which confirmed by Italian

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-2- 202, January 24, 10 a.m., from Taiz

by Italian doctor in attendance Sukhne. Once helped to his feet from customary couch on floor, he strides about unassisted. He was alert, decisive and in high good humor at all times. Visit was entirely successful despite unfortunate need for further dental work, prospect of which gave Imam no apparent concern.

STOLTZFUS

BB:CC-10

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : NEA - Mr. Jones

DATE: February 4, 1960

FROM : NE - Armin H. Meyer *Armin*

SUBJECT: Gifts for Presentation to Imam of Yemen

Attached is a proposed memorandum from you to Mr. Buchanan requesting U/PR to authorize \$205.00 for gifts which Mr. Reinhardt may present to the Imam of Yemen on the occasion of the presentation of his letters of credence. The proposed gifts have been approved by Mr. Reinhardt.

Attached for your information is a copy of the proposed picture which we would plan to have "doctored" to remove the American and British flags flying atop the Mocha buildings. The original painting hangs in the East India Maritime Institute in Salem, Massachusetts, and is based upon a sketch made by a Salem skipper while in Mocha Harbor in 1823.

Recommendation:

That you initial the attached memorandum to U/PR.

Attachments:

Memorandum to U/PR (Tab A)

Photograph (Tab B)

NEA/NE:HFE:lts:bld 2/4/60

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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9:03 a.m.

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FROM: Taiz  
TO: Secretary of State  
NO: 215, February 8, 3 p.m.

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SENT ASMARA 23, REPEATED INFORMATION DEPARTMENT 215.

Army dentist Lister and Emory proceeded Sukhne February 5  
to examine Iman and fit new dentures. Legation will take  
no further action pending their report.

STOLTZFUS

BB:DT

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## DEPARTMENT OF STATE INSTRUCTION

817

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817

FOR DC USE ONLY

NO.: CA-6441 February 9, 1960

SUBJECT: Article in U.S. Press Criticizes Imam of Yemen

TO: AmLegation, TAIZ

RPTD INFO: AmEmbassy, CAIRO  
AmConsul, ADEN

Reference: Memorandum of Conversation, January 12, 1960

On January 8, 1960 an article highly critical of the Imam of Yemen appeared in The Arab-American Message, an Arabic language paper of very limited circulation published in Detroit. On January 12 the Yemeni Charge d'Affaires protested to the Department and sought its assistance in preventing the publication by the Detroit paper of any further articles derogatory of the Imam.

After careful study of the article in question, the Department intends to inform the Yemeni Charge that, although this attack on a friendly monarch is regrettable, constitutional guarantees of freedom of the press preclude any intervention by the Department in this matter. The Yemeni Charge will also be advised that while the language of the article might provide ground for a libel suit by the Government of Yemen, it is by no means certain what the outcome of such a case might be and, in any event, a court case would unquestionably result in giving undesirable and probably sensational publicity to an article which attracted negligible attention and none at all in the English language press of this country.

In the event that the article which appeared in the Arab-American Message should come to the attention of the Imam or other Yemeni officials and the subject is raised with the Legation, a reply similar to that of the Department should be made.

Enclosed for the Legation's background information are a translation of the Arab-American Message article and an informal opinion prepared within the Department's legal division in regard to the feasibility of legal action against the paper.

Enclosures:  
As noted.

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DRAFTED BY:

NEA:NE:WRCrawford:seb 2-9-60

APPROVED BY:

NE - Armin H. Meyer

CLEARANCES:

NEA/P - Mr. Campbell

L/NEA - Mr. Reid

FEB 9 1960 P.M.

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGESNEA  
Info

FROM: Amlegation TAIZ

Date Sent: March 1, 1960  
Rec'd:

SS

TO: Secretary of State

G

NO: G-102

INR

RPTD INFO: Amembassy CAIROG101  
Amconsulate ASMARA G-7

RMR

Legtels 215 and 202 to Department

As reported reftels US Army dental team consisting of Cols. LISTER and EMORY paid second visit Sukhne starting Feb 5 on learning from Col. BRADY (third member original team) that left magnet inserted by Lister in Imam's upper gum had slipped out of place. Upon arrival Sukhne Lister informed Imam his opinion that it would be medically unsound perform another operation to reinsert magnet until additional two to four months had elapsed. Imam, although not ostensibly displeased, promptly lost all interest in dentists but, following own peculiar sense of courtesy toward foreigners, did not request them leave. In fact, only by dint persistent and repeated requests by dentists themselves, and by Charge after his arrival Sukhne Feb 17 through Palace intimates such as Prince Abdul Rahman and Taiz Security Chief Ahmad Abbas, were they finally permitted to leave Feb 21. On day of departure Lister and Emory again saw Imam, apologized for failure magnet operation and in order to please Imam outlined their ideas for possible new approach to problem of increasing retention his upper denture. Imam was friendly and cordial, seemed harbor no rancor toward dentists and said he wanted them return to perform any new operation they deemed useful. Before leaving Sukhne Lister informed Charge he expected second magnet to slip out within one month, that operation failed because Imam and his personal nurses ignored all his instructions regarding post-operative care, and that he did not in fact think it medically worthwhile return to Sukhne again. Emory was in full agreement with Lister, especially regarding last point.

Legation believes that despite failure of operation performed under most primitive and difficult conditions, dentists are to be commended highly for their efforts and for their patience and understanding which did not desert them throughout almost two months total time they spent in Sukhne. It should be noted that dental mission provided Charge in Taiz with unique opportunity to become personally acquainted with Imam his entourage and inner workings of his Government. Thus dentists performed important and valuable political service to United States.

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By RH NARA Date 11-07-04

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Amlegation TAIZ

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Legation believes it and Department should seriously consider at later date question of whether it desirable dentists return Sukhne.

STOLTZMUS

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PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

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FROM: Amlegation TATZ

Date Sent: March 1, 1960  
Rec'd:

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: G-100

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OPTD INFO: Amembassy CAIRO G-99

RRR

Legation's G-99

According Prince ABDUL RAHMAN, Vice Minister Yemeni Fonoff, Imam has requested USG provide one American surgeon and one internist on permanent basis to be Imam's personal doctors. When not in attendance on Imam doctors would live in Taiz and possibly be attached local Government hospital. Abdul Rahman specifies that doctors be experienced and not members MEDICO staff who needed in new hospitals and could not be spared to attend Imam. Abdul Rahman said GOY could not afford salaries American doctors and Imam hoped USG would agree assume this expense. Prince also indicated confidentially Imam not satisfied with Italian doctors now available in Yemen.

Early Department reaction to Imam's request would be appreciated.

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SENT TO: AmLegation, TAIZ G-15

RPTD INFO: AmEmbassy, CAIRO G-115

Page 1 of 1

Your G-100.

*786H.11/3-160*

Dept knows of no request from Imam that USG provide one American surgeon and one internist on permanent basis to be Imam's personal doctors. We would appreciate any further information which you may be able to develop re alleged request. Suggest, however, that no encouragement be given to Prince Abdur Rahman or others re likelihood USG furnishing medical personnel to be Imam's personal doctors. Nor would USG desire finance Imam's personal physicians.

786H.11/3-160

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classification approved by:

NE - Armin H. Meyer

*ear* S/S - CR  
MAR 9 - 1960 A.M.

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By *RL* NARA Date *11/07/04*

INCOMING AIRGRAM *Department of State*

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Date Sent: March 15, 1960  
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PAGE 1 OF 1

MAR 22 9 29 AM '60

FROM: Amlegation TAIZ

TO: Secretary of State

NO: G-110

RPTD INFO: Amembassy CAIRO G-108  
Amconsulate ADEN G-90  
Amembassy LONDON G-27

According recent reports, Imam restored "full powers" to Crown Prince Badr on March 5. As Minister Foreign Affairs and Defense, Badr now issuing orders in own name and as ranking GOY official in North has authority over Governor of Sana'a. Crown Prince also given control of Ministry of Economy in Sana'a where US road progag now being "studied".

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RG: 059

TAB #: 8

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SENT TO: AmEmbassy CAIRO G-149  
AmLegation TAIZ G-28  
RPTD INFO: Amconsul ADEN G-31

Page 1 of 1 Pages

*Note:  
123 Reinhardt,  
D. Frederick*

Watercolor copy of oil painting "American Coffee Ships at Mocha in 1822", one of two Presidential gifts for Imam of Yemen to be presented on occasion Minister Reinhardt's presentation of letters of credence as United States E.E.M.P. to Yemen, has just been completed and was pouched to Cairo April 9. Since time did not allow framing here, it is suggested this be done in Cairo. Gift of Zenith Transoceanic transistor radio for Imam sent earlier.

Following may be useful to you if comment on painting desirable: Original oil painting hangs in East India Marine Society Museum, Salem, Massachusetts. It was painted in 1823 by an unknown artist based on a sketch plan of Mocha drawn by William H. Neal of Salem, Mass., master of the Salem brig Java, on the occasion of a visit of that vessel to the port of Mocha in 1822. The sketch is contained in a manuscript entitled, Journal of A Voyage to Batavia and Return, now in the East India Marine Institute Library. Captain Neal's visit to Mocha took place August 29, 1822 to November 15, 1822. Neal apparently commissioned the painting shortly after his return to Salem. The length of the quay was extended somewhat in the oil painting from that indicated in the sketch. Neal subsequently gave the painting to the East India Marine Institute. The present copy, which is slightly larger than the original, was painted by John Leavitt of Marblehead, Massachusetts, at the Department's request, and permission to use it was kindly granted by Dr. Ernest Dodge, Director of the East India Marine Institute Museum. FYI. An American flag and a British flag, which fly over Mocha buildings in the original, were left out in the present copy to avoid offending the GOY's sensitivities re flying of foreign flags on Yemeni territory. END FYI.

The painting is the first graphic recording known to us of the long standing and friendly association between the United States and Yemen, which began with the visit to Mocha of the Salem brig Recovery, Edmund Ropes, Master, on September 9, 1798, and has continued to the present day.

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NE - Nicholas G. Thacher

Clearence:

U/PR - Mrs. Laird NEA/P - Mr. Campbell  
(substance)

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RG: 059

TAB #: 9

ENTRY: CDF60-63

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Airgram No: G-286

From: Amembassy, KARACHI

To: State

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